First Presbyterian Church

400 W Jefferson Street
Tupelo, Mississippi



THE MISSION OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IS TO:

Learn the Word of God in worship and study.

Live the Word of God in our homes and communities.

Lead others to the Word of God in love.

Visit us online. www.firstprestupelo.org
https://www.facebook.com/FPCTupelo
662.842.5681

Morning Worship Service
Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

November 8, 2026 9:00 & 11:00 A.M

"Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour." - Matthew 25:13

*Congregation standing as able. **Bold** is spoken by the congregation.

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome, Concerns, and Celebrations of the Church

Prelude *Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life* Diane Bish

Introit *Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending* arr. John Rutter

*Call to Worship

God calls us to worship, lifting our voices and our hearts in praise.
God calls us to worship, lifting our hands and our resources to serve.
God calls us to worship, when we are together and when we are alone.
God calls us to worship, in the sanctuary and on the street corner.
God calls us to worship, with our everyday choices and our Sunday best.
God calls us to worship, in song and prayer and in doing justice and loving kindness.

*Prayer of the Day

Your covenant is all we seek, O God.
Silence in us any voice but Yours this day.
Help us sort through the clutter and distractions of our lives,
that we may be present, here, right now,
and worship You in joy and peace. Amen.

*Hymn of Praise No. 210 *Our God, Our Help in Ages Past* ST. ANNE

Minute for Stewardship Buddy Stubbs

Call to Confession

Beloved,
we are called to live in right relationship with God

by loving one another.

Therefore, let us confess our sins

to the One who pardons our offenses.

Prayer of Confession

Loving God,

we confess that we have sinned against You

by not honoring You or loving one another.

When we ignore injustice in the world,

our worship brings You no delight.

Make haste to help us,

that we may stand in right relationship

with You and the whole of Your creation

and sing Your praises

through the mercy of Christ, our resurrected Savior.

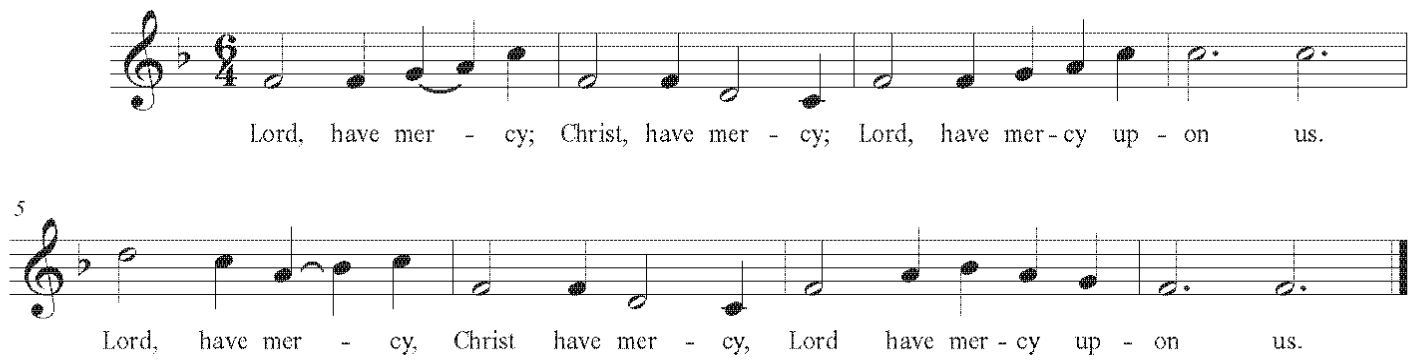
(Time of Silent Confession)

Kyrie

Lord, Have Mercy

Kyrie Eleison

(Congregation Please Sing)



Assurance of Pardon

Sisters and brothers,

rejoice and be glad,

for God is mighty to save

and come to you in peace

to forgive, restore, and strengthen you

eternally in Christ.

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel,

in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

*Response No. 579 *Gloria Patri*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.

Prayer for Illumination

Responsive Reading Psalm 70

Be pleased, O God, to deliver me.
O Lord, make haste to help me!
Let those be put to shame and confusion
who seek my life.
Let those be turned back and brought to dishonor
who desire to hurt me.
Let those who say, "Aha, Aha!"
turn back because of their shame.

Let all who seek you
rejoice and be glad in you.
Let those who love your salvation
say evermore, "God is great!"
But I am poor and needy;
hasten to me, O God!
You are my help and my deliverer;
O Lord, do not delay!

Children's Sermon

New Testament Reading 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 Pew Bible, pg. 204

Anthem *Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning* arr. Lloyd Larson

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
keep your lamps trimmed and burning, the time is drawing nigh.

Children, don't grow weary, children, don't grow weary,
children, don't grow weary for the time is drawing nigh.

Darker midnight lies before us, darker midnight lies before us,
darker midnight lies before us, the time is drawing nigh.

See the morning star arising, see the morning star arising,
see the morning star arising, the time is drawing nigh.

Now our night will soon be over, the night will soon be over,
yes the night will soon be over, the time is drawing nigh.

Gospel Reading — Matthew 25:1-13 — Pew Bible, pg. 28

Sermon — "Give Me Oil in My Lamp" — Rev. John Brock

*Statement of Faith — from *A Declaration of Faith*

We do not know when the final day will come. In our time we see only broken and scattered signs that the renewal of all things is under way. We do not yet see the end of cruelty and suffering in the world, the church, or our own lives. But we see Jesus as Lord. As He stands at the center of our history, we are confident He will stand at its end. He will judge all people and nations. Evil will be condemned and rooted out of God's good creation. There will be no more tears or pain. All things will be made new. The fellowship of human beings with God and each other will be perfected.

*Hymn of Affirmation No. 333 — *Seek Ye First* — LAFFERTY

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Our Father who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory — *Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak* — Alice Jordan

*Doxology No. 592

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Unison Prayer of Dedication

We give you thanks, O God, for the many blessings that You have bestowed upon us. Receive these gifts as symbols of the dedication of our very lives and signs of trust in Your coming reign of justice and peace. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

*Closing Hymn	*Onward Christian Soldiers* (see insert)	ST. GERTRUDE
Postlude	*Improvisation on "St. Anne"*	Paul Manz

*Benediction

Prayers for this Week

Cancer Treatment: Emily Barber, Margaret Murphey

Homebound: Ruby Kathryn Patterson, David Price, Charlie Barber

College Students: Aryanna Phyfer, Ashton Posey, Isabella Posey

Service Members: Patrick Hastings, Andrew Ray

Attendance Last Sunday

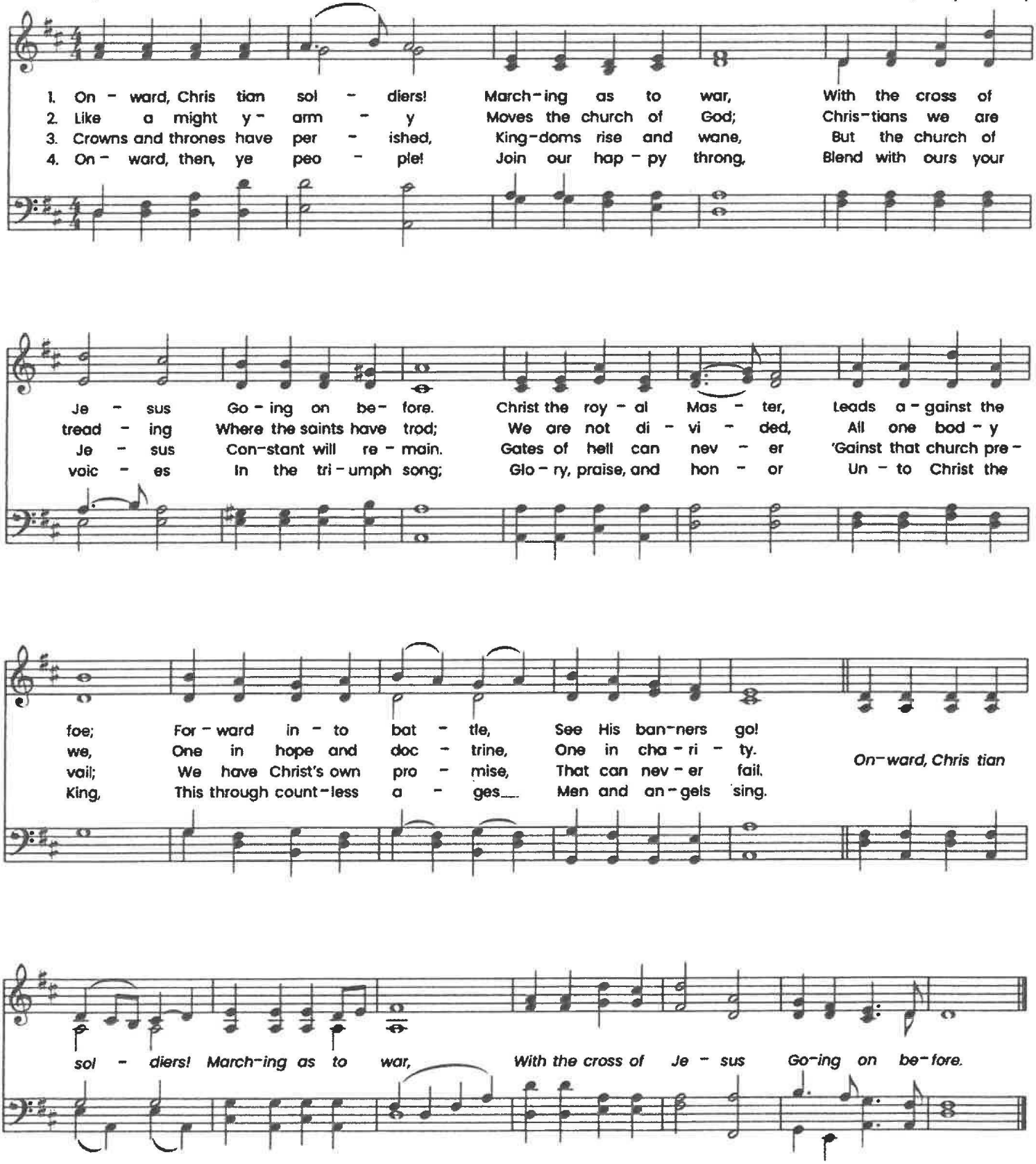
9:00 A.M.: 66 11:00 A.M.: 151



Onward, Christian Soldiers!

Sabine Baring-Gould, 1864 (1834-1924)

ST. GERTRUDE 6.5.6.5.6.D.Ref.
Arthur Sullivan, 1871 (1842-1899)



HONOR ★ SERVICE ★ SACRIFICE

Veterans Day

REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

NOVEMBER 11

10:00 A.M.



Join us in the Sanctuary of
First Presbyterian Church, Tupelo
and in the Stuart Garden for a service honoring those who served.

First Presbyterian Church
400 W Jefferson St.
Tupelo, MS 38804

This Week @ FPC

Sunday

9:00 A.M. Worship
10:00 A.M. Sunday School
11:00 A.M. Worship
4:30 P.M. Boy Scouts

11/08

Monday

2:30 P.M. CASA, Gym
5:30 P.M. Committee Meetings

11/09

Tuesday

9:00 A.M. T'ai Chi, Garden
10:00 A.M. Martha's, Kitchen
12:00 P.M. Circle 24, Sheffield Room
2:30 P.M. CASA, Gym
6:00 P.M. Circle 5, Busylad
7:00 P.M. AA, Session Room

11/10

Wednesday VETERANS DAY

10:00 A.M. Staff Meeting
11:11 A.M. Veterans Day Program
2:30 P.M. CASA, Gym
3:00 P.M. Mah Jongg
5:05 P.M. Tower Ringers
5:30 P.M. Wednesday Night Program
7:00 P.M. Chancel Choir

11/11

Thursday

8:00 A.M. Men's Breakfast, Talbot House
2:30 P.M. CASA, Gym

11/12

Friday

12:00 P.M. AA Meeting
2:30 P.M. CASA, Gym

11/13

Saturday

11/14

Next Week:

Sunday - Meet & Greet Pounding for Ann Kelly
Monday - Steering Committee Meeting, Session Meeting
Tuesday - Cook for Salvation Army
Thursday - Shepherd's Center Meeting
Saturday - Helping Hands

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

Are you looking for a church home? If so, please speak to our minister following worship or email him at pastor@firstprestupelo.org.

Large print hymnals are available from the ushers.

Ritual of friendship — Members and Visitors: Please sign the attendance register and pass it down your pew. Please read the names, greet one another, and meet new members and visitors.

The flowers are placed in the sanctuary today to the glory of God and in honor and memory of all veterans in appreciation of your service by Lisa and Jim Nichols.

All children are welcome in worship! Children's activity bags and special bulletins are available for all ages and are located with our regular worship bulletins in the Narthex. Nursery care is available for newborns through four-year-olds. Please ask an usher for directions to the nursery if you are visiting for the first time. After the Children's Sermon, preschoolers and kindergarteners are invited to attend "Wee Kirk." This is a time of fun childcare with age-appropriate songs and games.

Children in first through fifth grade are invited to join our Sunday version of Faithbuilder's during our Sunday service every 2nd and 4th Sunday. We meet **after the children's sermon** for a fun and engaging time of learning about the structure of our church service, with activities to help kids grow in their understanding and participation in worship. If your child attends, you can pick them up in the gym area after the service.

The service is live streamed and available for viewing on YouTube.com by those unable to be with us this morning. Search firstprestupelo. We also invite you to visit our website at www.firstprestupelo.org.

Leading the worship service today: Rev. John Brock, Dr. Bob Taylor, Dr. Ray Harris
Liturgists: 9:00: Sheree Lence
11:00: Bob Lence
Greeters: 9:00: Bobby & Martha Dale
11:00: Jim & Genie Alice Bruce, George & Wanda Dent

Upcoming Events and Announcements

Our weekly Bible study starts back this Tuesday, November 10, at 11:00 A.M. We will meet in the Bolton/Sistahood Room. This group enjoys engaging discussions and fellowship, and it is open to everyone. This week, we will study Proverbs 1.

For November 15, our scripture passages will be from **Judges 4:1-7, Psalm 123, 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11, and Matthew 25:14-30.**

Next Sunday is our **Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Sunday**! Please bring your completed shoeboxes to church on **November 15**. We will collect the boxes together and pray over them before they begin their journey to children around the world. We ask that you pre-pay your shipping label or provide $10 to help cover shipping fees for your shoebox. If you have not packed a box but would still like to participate, monetary donations are welcome and will be used by our youth to shop for and pack additional shoeboxes. Cash may be placed in an envelope labeled for **Operation Christmas Child**, or checks may be written with **"OCC"** in the memo/for line. Contact Morgan Ricks or Anne Kramer with questions.



Our **Wednesday night supper and program** will take place in the Fellowship Hall on **Wednesday, November 11,** at 5:30 P.M. Debra Robison and Hank Owens will be presenting. The menu includes Pork Tenderloin, Mac & Cheese, English Peas, a full Salad Bar, Rolls, & Dessert. Pizza is on the kids' menu. Adults are $10/person, kids (12 & under) are $5/person, and there is a $40 maximum per family. The kids' menu is available to ages 13+ at adult pricing. Please specify when making your reservation. **Sign up by noon on Tuesday** by scanning the QR code or by calling the church office at 662-842-5681.

From our Financial Secretary: To receive contribution credit for this year, we need all contributions in by **December 31.** Honorariums and Memorials for this year need to be in by the **6th of December** to be counted towards 2026.

Join us next Sunday, **November 15** for a "**Pounding**" to honor our new **Parish Associate, Ann Kelly.** This is a chance to **drop-in** and meet and greet with Ann at the **home of Rud and Debra Robison from 5-7 pm**. A "Pounding" is a type of party where guests stock the newcomer's pantry by bringing household staples that are traditionally sold by the pound or other non-perishables, such as flour, sugar, coffee, cornmeal, canned goods, oatmeal, etc.

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The Session

Rev. John Brock, Moderator
Lisa Nichols, Clerk of the Session

Class of 2027	Class of 2028	Class of 2029
Heather Crotwell	Jim Bruce	Richard Hastings
Amanda Davis	Tatum Collins	Jimmy Milam
Beth Anne Ellzey	Lee Herman	Curtis Monts
Mac Godwin	Trey Phyfer	Mary Ellis Pace
Mary Margaret Gratz	Buddy Stubbs	Margaret Parker
Debra Robison	Virginia Toliver	Daintry Thomas
Liz Rose	Kathy Wallace	Al Wallace

First Presbyterian Church Staff

Rev. John Brock, Pastor
Melissa McDuffie, Director of Youth and Christian Education
Dr. Bob Taylor, Director of Music
Dr. Ray Harris, Organist
Jeff Nock, Audio/Visual Technician
Claire Leeke, Director of Elementary and Youth Choirs
Dr. Kathy McMurry, Treasurer
Cindy Faucette, Church Librarian
MJ Whitt, Church Secretary
Kay Stanford, Financial Secretary
Penny O'Quinn, Morning Receptionist
Lucy Wells, Afternoon Receptionist
Ricky Kimbrell, Maintenance Superintendent
Rev. M. McCoy Franklin, Pastor Emeritus

